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4

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/717,022       |
| Filing Date            | October 17, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor   | David E. Hauber  |
| Art Unit               | 1734             |
| Examiner Name          | Linda L. Gray    |
| Attorney Docket Number | AD-7             |

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <b>Remarks</b>   |   |   |

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|--------------|------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name    | John F. McDevitt |          |        |
| Signature    |                  |          |        |
| Printed name | John F. McDevitt |          |        |
| Date         | April 2, 2005    | Reg. No. | 19,140 |

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| Typed or printed name | John F. McDevitt |
| Date                  | April 2, 2005    |

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AD-7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
David E. Hauber et al ) Group Art Unit: 1734  
Serial No. 10/717,022 ) Examiner: Linda L. Gray  
Filed: October 17, 2003 )  
FOR: COMPOSITE TAPE LAY-)  
ING APPARATUS AND )  
METHOD )

AMENDMENT A

Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the first Office Action mailed March 7, 2005 regarding the subject application, please have the Examiner reconsider the restriction requirement issued in said Office Action for the reasons given below.

REMARKS

The applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding restriction requirement under 35USC121 as erroneously ignoring the linked and connected claims now recited in the subject application. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw said restriction requirement and to examine all product and process claims now recited in the subject application without further requiring that an additional application be filed in order to conduct a common examination of the entire claimed invention.

Apparatus claims 1-14 in the subject application recite a composite tape laying apparatus "continuously" applying the resin impregnated tape by employing the recited structural components in a particular continuous sequential manner. The tape being applied is required to have a removable backing layer which is necessarily removed and continuously accumulated in the tape laying apparatus while the unbacked tape is further being continuously applied. A still further required structural component in said tape laying apparatus comprises "operationally cooperating mechanisms" including mechanical cutter means which cooperate with pinch roller means enabling forward tape movement when being fed during